For further information about mobile phone use in cars:

Call the authority in your state or territory:

NSW	Road Traffic Authority	02 831 0911
	Police	02 841 8000
VIC	Road Traffic Authority	03 345 4444
ACT	Police	06 249 7444
QLD	Police	07 364 6464
NT	Road Traffic Authority	089 89 5511
	Police	089 27 8888
WA	Police	09 222 1111
TAS	Police	002 35 2111
SA	Road Traffic Authority	08 343 2869

If you have any questions about handsfree car kits, or any other aspect of the Telecom MobileNet™ service, remember you're welcome to call our 24 hour Customer Service Line on **018 018 111** (no charge †).

Telecom MobileNet™ Talkback is a regular series of profiles of our customers. If your business benefits through using any Telecom MobileNet™ special feature, other users may enjoy reading about it in future editions of Telecom MobileNet™ Talkback. If you have an experience to share, let us know on **018 018 789** (no charge †) during business hours, Melbourne time.

†No call charge when call is made from a Telecom service.

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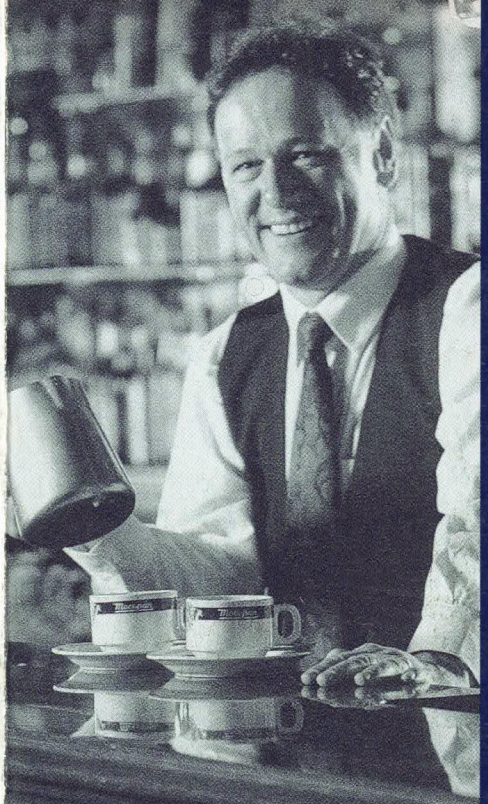


"When we first bought the mobile phone, I thought the extra money for a handsfree car kit was a luxury. But now... we couldn't do without it."

Ian Pontin
Churchers

Number TWO in a series:
CAR KITS

Talkback

Telecom AUSTRALIA
MobileNet™

Christine & Ian Pontin. Telecom MobileNet Customers.

An elegant old Victorian mansion is the home of Churchers, a popular Melbourne restaurant and function centre in the bustling suburb of Richmond run by Christine and Ian Pontin.

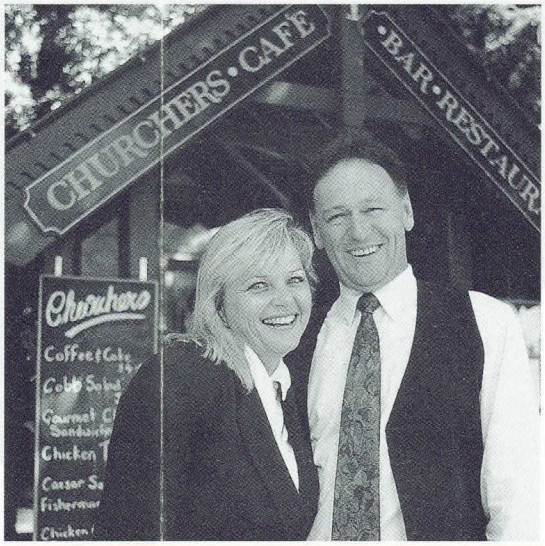
"We cater for a lot of weddings and corporate events, so we find we're out on the road a bit, meeting with clients and arranging functions." says Ian.

"So we invested in a hand-held mobile phone to carry in the car when either of us leaves the restaurant. Christine also runs a hospitality course a couple of nights a week, so it's a bit of reassurance for her too."

Ian was told about the option of a handsfree car kit for the hand-held phone when he first bought the phone. "I must admit, I thought it was a bit of a luxury. But then I had to go to Brisbane on business one day. I was heading back to the airport in a hire car when the phone rang. In the confusion of trying to find a place to pull over, finding the phone and answering the call, I hadn't realised that I'd driven straight past the airport turnoff. By the time I'd worked out where I was, and how to get back to the airport, I missed the flight."

The very next day Ian had the handsfree kit fitted to their car. "I use it all the time." says Christine. "It gives me that extra feeling of security in the car. I know the battery isn't going to run out, because the phone is plugged into the car's electrical system. So, when I'm coming home late at night from classes (the time when the battery is most likely to go flat), I feel even safer."

A handsfree car kit can save you money too. That's because every state and territory now has penalties for using a mobile phone when you drive, unless you're using a handsfree unit. Do you know what the law on mobile usage in cars is in your state or territory? Here's an update, with our compliments.



User tip. Having an in-car handsfree adaptor for your hand-held mobile lets you make better use of travel time. And, by adding a power booster to your car kit, you can increase the call range of your hand-held, enabling you to make and receive calls from more locations.

Handsfree car adaptors. Here's why you should invest.

In ***New South Wales*** a handsfree adaptor is a must. That's because it's an offence for the driver to dial the phone or talk into a handpiece unless the car is stationary. The fine for doing so is $96, although you only lose demerit points if an accident is caused. You can talk using a handsfree adaptor, but you can't dial unless the car is stationary.

In ***Victoria,*** the rules are the same, although the fine is $135, with demerit points being lost if an accident is caused.

In the ***ACT,*** the offence is known as "driving without due care and attention" and attracts a fine of up to $90, plus the loss of 3 demerit points.

Queensland has a similar law, where, if an accident is caused, drivers can be charged for driving "without due care or attention" or "negligent driving", depending on the circumstances. The fine is at the discretion of the court, although penalties of up to 3 months disqualification can be imposed.

If an accident is caused through the use of a handset in the ***Northern Territory,*** the driver can be charged with driving "without due care and attention". The same goes for ***Western Australia*** and ***Tasmania.***

In ***South Australia,*** even if an accident is not caused, drivers can be charged with driving "without due care and attention", facing a maximum penalty of $1,000. If an accident is caused, the driver can be charged with "careless and reckless" driving and lose 3 demerit points.